



Idaho Potatoes

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture
Idaho Field Office • PO Box 1699 • Boise, Idaho 83701

(800) 691-9987 • (208) 334-1507 • (208) 334-1114 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov



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Media Contact: Bill Meyer

IDAHO RUSSET POTATO SIZE AND GRADE SUMMARY – 2008 CROP

The statistics in this publication were obtained from the 2008 Potato Objective Yield Survey. USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service would like to thank all growers who allowed the enumerators to dig samples in their fields. Without the voluntary cooperation of the farmers themselves, obtaining valid and timely agricultural statistics would be much more difficult. Because the samples of potatoes were dug by hand, the size and grade statistics in this document do not reflect harvesting or handling damage. One change this year involves the use of state inspectors to grade potatoes instead of NASDA data collection staff.

The survey results showed for the 2008 crop, 28.1 percent of the russet potatoes were at least ten ounces, compared to 32.5 percent that reached that size in 2007. Of the Russet potatoes in the 2008 sample, 70.3 percent met the 2.0 inch or 4 oz. minimum size and grade requirements for U.S. No. 1 potatoes, down from 71.9 percent last year. Processing grade and U.S. No. 2 potatoes, with a 1.5 inch minimum, accounted for 20.6 percent of the 2008 crop.

PROCEDURE

The 2008 Potato Objective Yield Survey consisted of 284 samples located throughout Idaho in fields selected in an unbiased and random manner. The selection of sample fields was based on all known potato acreage planted in 2008, with each acre having an equal chance of being chosen. As a result, growers with large acreages were more likely to be selected to participate in this survey. Several sample fields with varieties other than Russet were selected, but only the reports with Russet potatoes were used to compile the data in Tables 1 and 2. For each sample field, two plots were systematically located using computer generated random numbers. Each plot consisted of a twenty-foot section of a row. Digging of all samples occurred immediately preceding harvest or when all vines had died and growth of the tubers was no longer possible. Three hills of potatoes from each twenty-foot row section were carefully dug, counted, weighed, and then graded according to U.S.D.A. standards. Potatoes less than 1.5 inches in diameter were excluded from this procedure. To measure the harvest loss, post-harvest gleanings were taken for every fourth sample. The gleaning area consisted of two 3-by-6-foot plots, located five paces and five row space equivalents beyond the plots where the potato hills were dug. All potatoes and potato pieces, except whole potatoes less than 1.5 inches in diameter, were collected, weighed, and graded. Geographic distribution of the 2008 sample fields is shown in the following table.

AREA	COUNTIES	NUMBER OF <u>SAMPLE PLOTS</u>
Southwest	Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley & Washington	35
South Central	Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka & Twin Falls	65
Eastern	Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Franklin, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida & Power	135
Eastern Seed Counties	Butte, Caribou, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Lemhi & Teton	49

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov.

TABLE 1 – IDAHO RUSSET POTATOES: SIZE AND GRADE – 2008 CROP ^{1/2/}

AREA AND GRADE	1½” - 15/8”	15/8” - 17/8”	17/8” - 2”	2” or 4-6 Oz	6-7 Oz	7-8 Oz	8-9 oz	9-10 oz	10-11 Oz	11-12 oz	12-13 Oz	13-14 oz	14 oz and over	Total
	Percentages (%)													
SOUTH CENTRAL COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2” min) ^{3/}	-	-	-	16.5	7.4	7.1	6.7	6.1	4.3	4.3	4.4	3.0	12.5	72.3
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{4/}	0.8	3.7	3.0	2.0	1.0	0.6	1.0	1.1	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.6	3.7	20.0
Cull ^{5/}	0.1	0.5	0.5	1.5	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.4	1.4	7.7
TOTAL	0.9	4.2	3.5	20.0	9.0	8.2	8.0	7.9	5.5	5.7	5.5	4.0	17.6	100.0
EASTERN COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2” min) ^{3/}	-	-	-	24.0	8.3	7.6	6.5	5.6	4.3	2.7	2.0	2.0	7.0	70.0
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{4/}	1.1	5.5	4.5	1.8	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	2.2	20.3
Cull ^{5/}	0.2	0.9	0.8	2.9	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.6	9.7
TOTAL	1.3	6.4	5.3	28.7	10.1	8.9	7.9	7.3	5.4	3.5	2.8	2.6	9.8	100.0
EASTERN SEED COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2” min) ^{3/}	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.6	8.2	6.9	5.1	3.7	3.5	2.9	2.0	2.1	4.4	66.4
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{4/}	1.6	8.5	7.1	1.8	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.2	1.0	23.3
Cull ^{5/}	0.1	0.9	0.5	1.7	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.1	2.3	10.3
TOTAL	1.7	9.4	7.6	31.1	9.5	8.2	5.9	5.4	4.4	3.6	3.1	2.4	7.7	100.0
TOTAL OTHER COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2” min) ^{3/}	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.4	8.0	7.3	6.3	5.4	4.1	3.2	2.8	2.3	8.2	70.0
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{4/}	1.1	5.5	4.5	1.9	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	2.5	20.8
Cull ^{5/}	0.2	0.8	0.7	2.2	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	1.2	9.2
TOTAL	1.3	6.3	5.2	26.5	9.6	8.5	7.5	7.1	5.2	4.2	3.7	3.0	11.9	100.0
10 SOUTHWEST COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2” min) ^{3/}	-	-	-	20.6	9.4	7.6	7.0	7.2	4.6	5.2	4.6	3.3	10.6	80.1
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{4/}	1.0	4.5	3.3	1.5	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.5	2.0	16.6
Cull ^{5/}	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.4	3.3
TOTAL	1.1	4.9	3.7	22.9	10.0	8.3	8.3	8.2	5.0	5.6	5.2	3.8	13.0	100.0
STATE														
U.S. No. 1 (2” min) ^{3/}	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.3	8.1	7.3	6.3	5.4	4.2	3.2	2.8	2.4	8.3	70.3
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{4/}	1.1	5.5	4.5	1.9	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.4	2.4	20.6
Cull ^{5/}	0.2	0.7	0.7	2.2	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	1.2	9.1
TOTAL	1.3	6.2	5.2	26.4	9.7	8.5	7.5	7.1	5.3	4.2	3.7	3.0	11.9	100.0

1/ Gross yield basis.

2/ For 2008, Idaho Department of Agriculture inspectors were used to grade potatoes instead of NASDA data collection staff.

3/ Potatoes which meet the requirements for U.S. #1, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

4/ Potatoes which meet the requirements for U.S. #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

5/ Potatoes not meeting the requirements for U.S. #1 or U.S. #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

TABLE 2 – IDAHO RUSSET POTATOES: SIZE AND GRADE – 2007 CROP ^{1/}

AREA AND GRADE	1½" - 15/8"	15/8" - 17/8"	17/8" - 2"	2" or 4-6 oz	6-7 Oz	7-8 Oz	8-9 oz	9-10 oz	10-11 Oz	11-12 oz	12-13 oz	13-14 oz	14 oz and over	Total
	Percentages (%)													
SOUTH CENTRAL COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	17.4	8.4	8.2	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.3	3.1	2.1	10.5	71.1
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.5	5.5	3.8	2.7	0.9	1.7	1.1	0.7	1.0	1.3	1.4	0.6	5.3	27.5
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	0.1	-	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.2	1.4
TOTAL	1.6	5.6	3.8	20.4	9.5	10.1	6.7	6.1	6.3	6.7	4.5	2.7	16.0	100.0
EASTERN COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	22.1	9.7	8.3	6.4	5.1	5.0	3.6	2.7	1.8	8.1	72.8
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.9	6.8	3.9	1.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.8	5.2	26.3
Cull ^{4/}	-	-	-	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.1	-	0.2	0.9
TOTAL	1.9	6.8	3.9	24.2	10.6	9.2	7.4	5.9	5.9	4.3	3.8	2.6	13.5	100.0
EASTERN SEED COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	20.9	7.8	5.8	5.9	6.0	4.4	5.2	3.9	3.2	7.9	71.0
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	2.2	7.6	3.9	1.5	1.1	1.1	1.5	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	5.9	28.4
Cull ^{4/}	-	0.1	-	0.2	-	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.6
TOTAL	2.2	7.7	3.9	22.6	8.9	7.0	7.5	6.9	5.3	5.9	4.5	3.8	13.8	100.0
TOTAL OTHER COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	20.5	9.0	7.8	6.1	5.3	5.0	4.4	3.0	2.1	8.8	72.0
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.8	6.5	3.9	2.1	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.7	5.3	26.9
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	0.1	-	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.1	-	0.2	1.1
TOTAL	1.9	6.6	3.9	22.8	10.0	9.1	7.2	6.1	5.9	5.3	4.1	2.8	14.3	100.0
10 SOUTHWEST COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	19.8	8.1	6.8	5.0	5.7	4.7	4.7	3.6	2.7	9.3	70.4
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.6	5.5	3.2	3.5	1.2	0.8	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.0	0.5	1.1	6.1	29.2
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.4
TOTAL	1.7	5.5	3.2	23.3	9.3	7.7	6.6	7.2	6.4	5.7	4.1	3.8	15.5	100.0
STATE														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	20.4	9.0	7.8	6.0	5.3	5.0	4.4	3.0	2.2	8.8	71.9
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.8	6.5	3.8	2.2	0.9	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.7	5.3	27.1
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	-	-	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.1	-	0.2	1.0
TOTAL	1.9	6.5	3.8	22.8	10.0	9.1	7.2	6.2	5.9	5.3	4.1	2.9	14.3	100.0

^{1/} Gross yield basis.

^{2/} Potatoes which meet the requirements for U.S. #1, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

^{3/} Potatoes which meet the requirements for U.S. #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

^{4/} Potatoes not meeting the requirements for U.S. #1 or U.S. #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

**TABLE 3 – IDAHO POTATOES: AVERAGE NUMBER OF HILLS
PER ACRE BY TYPE 2007 & 2008 CROPS ^{1/}**

TYPE	NUMBER OF SAMPLES		AVERAGE NUMBERS OF HILLS PER ACRE	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
Reds 2/	3		17,356	
Whites	8	10	14,131	12,682
Yellows 2/	4		13,626	
Russets	264	270	12,134	12,536
TOTAL	279	284	12,269	12,613

1/ Based on row measurements and counts in potato fields selected for objective yield samples.

2/ Insufficient number of reports to publish 2008 data.

TABLE 4 – IDAHO ALL POTATOES: QUANTITY LEFT IN FIELD AFTER HARVEST – 2007 & 2008 CROPS ^{1/}

AREA	2007 CROP		2008 CROP	
	NUMBER OF SAMPLES	CWT PER ACRE	NUMBER OF SAMPLES	CWT PER ACRE
Southwest	8	19	9	25
South Central	15	22	15	29
Eastern	38	27	30	33
Seed Co.'s	10	22	12	28
STATE	71	27	66	30

1/ Potatoes left in the field at time of harvest. Based on counts in potato fields selected for post harvest samples.

TABLE 5 – SELECTED STATES LONG POTATOES (RUSSET & SHEPODY) - 2008 CROP ^{1/}

STATE	1½” - 1 5/8”	15/8” - 1 7/8	17/8” - 2”	2” or 4-6 oz	6-7 Oz	7-8 oz	8-9 oz	9-10 oz	10-11” Oz	11-12 oz	12-13 oz	13-14 Oz	14 oz and over	Total
	Percentages (%)													
ID 2/	1.3	6.2	5.2	26.4	9.7	8.5	7.5	7.1	5.3	4.2	3.7	3.0	11.9	100.0
MN	2.4	8.5	5.4	29.0	10.5	9.1	8.3	6.0	5.3	4.5	2.9	1.8	6.3	100.0
ND	1.0	5.7	3.9	24.9	11.1	10.0	9.4	7.4	5.7	4.5	3.0	3.2	10.3	100.0
OR	1.4	4.9	3.9	24.5	10.8	8.8	7.2	8.0	5.8	5.5	3.9	3.4	12.1	100.0
WA	0.6	3.5	3.3	24.7	10.3	9.6	8.4	7.7	6.5	5.2	4.3	3.2	12.7	100.0
WI	0.6	6.0	5.6	32.0	11.6	8.9	7.6	6.6	5.0	4.4	3.4	2.5	5.7	100.0

1/ Gross yield basis.

2/ Russets only.

TABLE 6 – SELECTED STATES GRADING CATEGORIES - 2008 CROP ^{1/}

AREA AND GRADE	U.S. NO. 1 2 INCH MINIMUM 2/	U.S. NO. 2 OR PROCESSING USABLE 3/	CULL 4/	TOTAL
LONG POTATOES	Percentages (%)			
ID 5/	70.3	20.6	9.0	100.0
ME 6/	65.5	20.0	14.5	100.0
MN	72.9	21.0	6.1	100.0
ND	76.5	18.3	5.2	100.0
OR	77.1	18.0	4.9	100.0
WA	80.3	15.6	4.1	100.0
WI	84.2	15.6	0.1	100.0

1/ Gross yield basis.

2/ Potatoes which meet the requirements for U.S. #1, as stated in U.S. Standards for grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service

3/ Potatoes which meet the requirements for U.S. #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

4/ Potatoes not meeting the requirements for U.S. #1 or U.S. #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

5/ Russet potatoes only.

6/ Percent of net yield – adjusted for field loss.